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## ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 9, 1955  
Opinion No. 55-44

REQUESTED BY: William P. Mahoney, Jr., County Attorney,  
Maricopa County, by Joseph F. Walton,  
Special Counsel for Schools.

OPINION BY: ROBERT MORRISON, The Attorney General,  
By Gordon Aldrich, Assistant to the  
Attorney General.

- QUESTIONS:
1. May a school district employ an appraiser for the purpose of fixing values in order to insure school property?
  2. May a school district employ an appraiser for the purpose of fixing values in connection with the purchase of real property?
  3. May a school district employ an appraiser for the purpose of fixing values in connection with the sale of real property?
  4. May a school district employ an appraiser for the purpose of fixing values in connection with the purchase or sale of personal property?

CONCLUSION: The answers to the questions posed above are all in the affirmative.

I think there is no disagreement on the question of whether or not a school district may employ an appraiser for the purpose of fixing values in order to ascertain the amount of insurance to be obtained on school property. The "Manage and Control" provisions of Section 54-416, 1954, Chapter 117, Section 2, are liberal enough to endow school district boards with this power. The same power should obtain in connection with the second question for the reason that sensible management and control implies all reasonable means for seeking knowledge and giving

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rise to intelligent control. The last section, Subsection 12 of Section 54-416 enables a board to employ professional personnel to make surveys and recommendations relating to the physical plant of the district. This language together with the provisions of Section 54-431 (1954) certainly would appear broad enough to answer the remaining questions in the affirmative.

It is true, that in the event of sale of school property, or purchase of school property, that the final authority is vested with the electors in the district concerned. However, in order to fix a price on which the electors may be called upon to vote, it certainly is necessary to have an appraisal. In statutes, more or less similar to our own, we have school boards vested with powers to erect teachers homes, athletic fields, bus sheds, 26 So.2d 180; a school district census was permitted, school officers were permitted to attend conventions, outside office rent was provided for school superintendents, 175 Atl. 219; truant officers and director of recreation allowed to attend convention; an attorney hired and compensated, 265 NW 54, and specifically to "care for and manage" school property was held to include the power to insure buildings, see 86 A.L.R. 1196 for discussions. 47 P.2d 624, 100 A.L.R. 581.

In conclusion, the answers to the questions posed above are all in the affirmative.

ROBERT MORRISON  
The Attorney General

GORDON ALDRICH  
Assistant to The  
Attorney General